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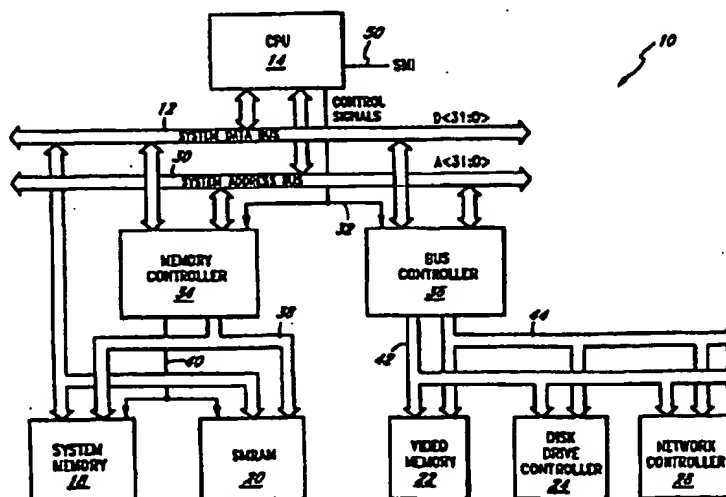
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING EXECUTION OF SYSTEM MANAGEMENT MODE SERVICES IN VIRTUAL MODE



(57) Abstract

The present invention is an apparatus and method for executing instructions in a system management mode in a processor-based system. The apparatus comprises a memory for storing instruction sequences by which the processor-based system is processed where the memory includes a system management random access memory (SMRAM). The apparatus also comprises a processor having a system address space, that executes the stored instruction sequences. The stored instruction sequences include process steps to cause the processor to: (a) configure the processor to operate in a protected mode while in a system management mode, the processor operating at address greater than one megabyte; (b) invoke a paging feature of the processor; (c) configure the processor to operate in a virtual mode; and (d) process the instruction sequences; wherein the process steps occur upon the receipt of an instruction to process a system management request.

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